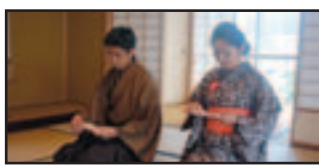


‘Darkside’  
A-3



Tea  
B-1



Champs  
C-1

## World War I veteran dies

### Yeomanette dies at age 109

#### News Release

Naval District Washington Public Affairs

**WASHINGTON (NNS)** — The last surviving female World War I veteran, Charlotte Winters, died March 27 in Boonsboro, Md. She was 109 years old.

Winters served in the U.S. Naval Reserve as a yeoman, including service at a gun production facility at the Washington Navy Yard. She continued to work for the Navy in Washington until her retirement in 1953.

The Naval Reserve Act of 1916 enabled the Navy to begin enlisting women in mid-March 1917. Nearly 600 were on duty by the end of April 1917. That number grew to more than 11,000 by December 1918, shortly after the

armistice. These women were popularly known as "Yeomanettes."

They all held enlisted ranks and served in support positions, mainly secretarial and clerical, and almost all served in the U.S. Many worked in government and naval offices, in defense companies and hospitals. They were all released from active duty in July 1919. Two of them ultimately became Naval officers in the Reserve, Capt. Joy Bright Hancock and Lt. Eunice Whyte.

Funeral services were held Friday in Boonsboro, Md., with interment to follow at the Mount Olivet Cemetery, in Frederick, Md.

The U.S. Navy Ceremonial Guard presented military honors during the interment ceremony.

The Naval Historical Center has further information on the "Yeomanettes" at [www.history.navy.mil/photos/prs-tpic/females/yeoman-f.htm](http://www.history.navy.mil/photos/prs-tpic/females/yeoman-f.htm).

For more news from around the fleet, visit [www.navy.mil](http://www.navy.mil).

## Marines discuss combat experience in Al Anbar

#### Cpl. Luke Blom

2nd Marine Division

**HADITHA, Iraq** — As a combat correspondent attached to the Hawaii-based 2nd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, I've had the privilege to go on patrols and conduct various missions with dozens of different units inside the Haditha "Triad" region — a tri-city metropolis in the middle of the western Al Anbar desert along the Euphrates River.

Each time I get attached to a platoon, whether it was for a three-hour patrol or a multi-day operation, I get the opportunity to talk with the grunts about what they've seen, experienced, and what their perspective is about the war.

I sat down with two Marines who I've been on patrol with numerous times to discuss the War from their points of view as Marine infantrymen on the front lines.

Sgt. Jason Tarr, a squad



Cpl. Luke Blom

Sergeant Jason Tarr (right), squad leader and Cpl. James Steuter, infantryman both from 2nd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment have both deployed to Afghanistan and Iraq in the last two years.

leader and 27-year-old from Great Mills, Md., has been deployed to Afghanistan and is currently on his first tour in Iraq with 2nd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment. Since arriving in Iraq in September 2006, Tarr has served as a section leader for a Mounted Assault Platoon and recently as a dismounted squad leader.

He has also been awarded

the Purple Heart for injuries sustained while attached to MAP.

Cpl. James Steuter, an infantryman and 21-year-old from West Point, Neb., serves as a team leader with Tarr's squad. Like Tarr, Steuter has also been deployed to Afghanistan and is currently on his first tour in Iraq with 2/3.

See ANBAR, A-5

## Semper Fidelis



Cpl. Mark Fayloga

A Marine from Headquarters Battalion, Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, holds a ruler beside the tattoos on his legs while a Marine from Combat Camera takes his picture after battalion physical training Friday. All Marines who participated in the battalion run with tattoos visible in P.T. gear were required to have their tattoos photographed before they returned to their work section. The new tattoo policy, which states Marines will no longer be able to get tattoo "sleeves" on their arms or legs, went into effect April 1. The policy also states that those with tattoos on their arms and legs must document them with a page 11 entry.



Petty Officer 1st Class Brien Aho

Navy Ceremonial Guard carries the casket of Charlotte Louise Berry Winters the last known female veteran and former Navy Yeoman of World War I out from All Saint's Episcopal Church in Frederick Maryland. Winters enlisted in the Navy in 1917 and was a founding member of the National Yeoman veterans' organization died at the age of 109 on March 27.

## Safety Message from the Military Police Department

#### News Release

Military Police Department

From the mid 90's cell phone usage has more than tripled sending its numbers from a few thousands to a few billion. Cell phones are great, you can use them anywhere but should you? Harvard University did a study in 2003 that cell phones were the leading cause in the United States for accidents. Cell phones cause over 200 deaths and half a million injuries each year. You are four times more likely to get into an accident when using a cell phone.

Governors Highway Safety Association highlight some the things state have implemented to drastically decrease the correlation between cell phone usage while driving and the high factor of vehicle accidents. Thirteen states have made laws on novice drivers and bus driver cannot use cell phone while passengers are in the vehicle with them. Some states have gone as far as taking away the privilege of using a cell phone without a hands free device. Unfortunately the ballots have not been cast for Hawaii. The legislator is still having research conducted on the issue of cell phone usage and vehicle mishaps.

The branches of the military have taken it that much further and either banned cell phones all together or the handling of cell phones without a hands free device. Hickam AFB, for example, you receive an 1408 and an automatic 30 day suspension. On average they write 15 tickets a month for cell phone offenses. Marine Corps Base Hawaii's

See SAFETY, A-5



Lance Cpl. R. Drew Hendricks

Sergeant James Prince, base inspectors office, Headquarters Battalion, poses in his vehicle while talking on his cell phone and wearing his seat belt. Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay's military police are cracking down on individuals who are not abiding by base regulations regarding the use of cell phones and wearing seat belts while driving.



# NEWS BRIEFS

## Base Chapel Easter Sunrise Service

The Base Chapel aboard MCB Hawaii, K-Bay, will have an Easter Sunrise Service Sunday from 6:30 to 7:30 a.m. at the field across from Ft. Hase Beach. For more information, contact Chaplain Daniel Owens at 257-8318 or via e-mail at daniel.owens@usmc.mil.

## Remembering the Holocaust

A day of remembrance for the Holocaust will be held April 19 at the Base Chapel from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. Guest speaker will be Holocaust survivor Mr. Rubens. Civilian, military and retirees are invited. For more information contact Gunnery Sgt. T. D. Nicholson at 257-7774.

## ‘Wounded Warriors’ authorized to fly aboard executive aircraft

Military members on active duty who have been injured in a combat zone and are currently receiving treatment at a medical treatment facility will be offered excess seats on any Department of Defense aircraft in the continental United States that supports DoD senior official’s travel, which includes general and flag officers and civilian employees at the senior executive service, or higher, levels.

“Wounded Warriors,” who are traveling in a temporary duty or a temporary additional duty status will be manifested as space-required passengers by the DoD senior official’s travel coordinator.

Wounded Warriors traveling in a leave status will be offered seats on a space-available basis prior to any other potential space-available passenger category outlined in DoD’s Air Transportation Eligibility directive.

Travelers should be advised that scheduled flights are subject to short notice changes or cancellations.

Immediate family members of Wounded Warriors, who possess valid DoD identification cards, may also be offered available seats when accompanying the Wounded Warriors to their destination.

## Information wanted regarding arson

The Criminal Investigation Division is seeking any information relating to the recent fire at 2552-C Manning Street, located in the Rainbow Housing area, across the street from The Klipper Golf Course.

The fire completely destroyed one of the housing units and the cause of the fire appears to involve juvenile dependants residing aboard MCB Hawaii Kaneohe Bay.

Anyone providing information relating to this fire, or any other criminal activities, may do so anonymously.

Thank you for your continued support in keeping your children and others residing in our family housing communities safe.

For more information please call, Criminal Investigation Division at 257-1305 or the Military Police Department Desk Sergeant at 257-2123.

## Important Phone Numbers:

On-Base Emergencies	911
Military Police	257-7114
Child Protective Service	832-5300
Fraud, Waste, Abuse & EEO	257-8852
Business Management Hotline	257-3188
Pothole & Streetlight Repair	257-2380
Base Information	449-7110
MCBH Duty Chaplain	257-7700
DEERS	257-2077

# Hawaii MARINE

www.mcbh.usmc.mil

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# Delay in war funds will hurt military readiness, morale

## Gerry J. Gilmore

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — Further congressional delay in forwarding an appropriate emergency war spending bill to the White House will damage military readiness and morale as well as endanger the nation, President Bush told reporters today at a White House news conference.

“Congress’s failure to fund our troops on the front lines will mean that some of our military families could wait longer for their loved ones to return from the front lines, and others could see their loved ones headed back to the war sooner than they need to,” Bush said.

That scenario is “unacceptable,” Bush said, noting he believes the American people would agree with him.

“Members of Congress say they support the troops. Now they need to show that support in deed, as well as in word,” Bush said. Congressional debate over the conduct of the war against terrorism “shouldn’t come at the expense of funding our troops,” the president said.

The Senate and the House of Representatives have both passed emergency war supplemental funding bills providing funding for U.S. troops, but the money is contingent on troops being withdrawn from Iraq according to a set timetable. Each chamber’s bill also contains unrelated domestic spending.

The president sent his recommended military spending bill to Congress almost 60 days ago. Bush has rejected the recent Senate and House legislation out of hand, saying he’d veto any military funding bill with set timetables for the withdrawal of troops from Iraq.

Bush said he’d just received an update on the U.S. troop reinforcement, or surge, to Iraq from Defense Secretary Robert M. Gates and Gen. Peter Pace, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. Two of the five additional Army

brigades involved in the surge are now operating in Baghdad, Bush noted, with another now making its way into Iraq from Kuwait.

“And the remaining two brigades will deploy in April and in May,” the president said. It’ll be early June, he said, before all five brigades and other U.S. reinforcements are in place in Iraq.

The U.S. Army brigades already in Baghdad are having a positive effect on reducing violence there, Bush said.

“And as more of those reinforcements arrive in the months ahead, their impact will continue to grow,” the president said.

The current House and Senate war spending bills “undercut the troops by substituting the judgment of politicians in Washington for the judgment of our commanders in the ground, setting an arbitrary withdrawal from Iraq, and spending billions of dollars on ‘pork barrel’ projects completely unrelated to the war,” Bush said.

If Congress fails to forward the White House a favorable war spending bill for presidential signature by mid-April, then, “the Army will be forced to consider cutting back on equipment, equipment repair, and quality of life initiatives for our Guard and Reserve forces,” Bush said.

Bush said those cuts would become necessary, “because the money would have to be shifted to support the troops on the front lines.” The Army also would have to consider cutting training for stateside-assigned Guard and Reserve units, he said.

That scenario would negatively affect unit readiness and might delay the affected units’ availability for missions in Afghanistan and Iraq, Bush said.

Additionally, if Congress doesn’t pass and forward a favorable war spending bill by mid-May, then potential problems would become more acute, the president said. The Army would be forced to consider slowing or freezing funding for its equipment-repair depots,

Bush said, or delay training of some active-duty forces for overseas deployment.

“If this happens, some of the forces now deployed in Afghanistan and Iraq may need to be extended because other units are not ready to take their places,” Bush explained. “The Army may also have to delay the formation of new brigade combat teams.”

Bush then read from a letter to Congress written by Army Chief of Staff Gen. Peter J. Schoomaker, who informed legislators of the impending funding crisis for his service: “‘Without approval of the supplemental funds in April, we will be forced to take increasingly draconian measures which will impact Army readiness and impose hardships on our soldiers and their families.’”

A shortage of funds, Bush explained, would cause some stateside-based Army units to be unavailable for mobilization to Iraq and Afghanistan to replace units set for rotation back to their home bases.

The president acknowledged that some Americans are concerned about U.S. policy on Iraq, but he emphasized that failure to defeat terrorism there would doom the fledgling Iraqi democracy and endanger U.S. citizens.

American military forces serving in Iraq are providing its young government “breathing room” so that it can eventually defend and sustain itself against its enemies, Bush said.

If U.S. troops leave Iraq too early, it could become a “calldron of chaos, which would embolden” the Sunni, Shiite and other extremists who are now trying to tear the country apart, Bush said. Terrorists could then use Iraq as a safe haven, he pointed out, from which to launch new attacks against America.

Bush said his primary presidential task is to protect the American people.

“And, I firmly believe that if we were to leave (Iraq) before the job is done, the enemy would follow us here,” the president said.

## Prior to the pass



Cpl. Mark Fayloga

Sergeant Maj. Robert E. Roberts renders a salute to Lt. Col. Owen R. Lovejoy II, commanding officer, 3rd Marine Regiment, prior to the passing of the sword to symbolize Sgt. Maj. Steven D. Morefield taking charge as the new sergeant major of 3rd Marine Regiment.

## Weekend weather outlook

### Today



**Day** — Mostly sunny, with a high near 79. South wind between 3 and 5 mph.

**Night** — Mostly clear, with a low around 62. East wind around 8 mph.

**High** — 79

**Low** — 62

### Saturday



**Day** — Mostly sunny, with a high near 81. East wind between 7 and 9 mph.

**Night** — Mostly clear, with a low around 65. Northeast wind around 13 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph.

**High** — 81

**Low** — 65

### Sunday



**Day** — Isolated showers. Partly cloudy, with a high near 81. East wind around 11 mph. Chance of precipitation is 20%.

**Night** — A 20 percent chance of showers. Partly cloudy, with a low around 69. East wind around 9 mph.

**High** — 81

**Low** — 69





Lance Cpl. Jared Zarbo, fire team leader, Operations Platoon, Headquarters and Service Company, 3rd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, attempts to pull a wounded Marine to safety after an went off during a training exercise at Marine Corps Base Hawaii, March 27.

# Marines train to join ‘Darkside’

Story and Photos by  
**Lance Cpl. R. Drew Hendricks**  
*Combat Correspondent*

In order to prepare for their upcoming deployment the Marines from Operational Platoon, Headquarters and Service Company, 3rd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, ramped up their training to ensure they are fully prepared to take on the missions and responsibilities they will have during their tour of duty.

This platoon, which was formed only a short while ago, has much to prepare for in the upcoming months. That is why these warriors pushed themselves so hard during a training exercise March 27-28.

The “Darkside Platoon,” a nickname coined by its guide Sgt. Julio Rapalo, is made up of Marines from throughout H&S Company.

“They usually take one of the line platoons from the grunts and form the Operational Platoon,” said Rapalo. “H&S Company rates an Operational Platoon, but with scarce manpower they have to look for bodies in other places.”

Darkside is made up of Marines from motor transport, communications, supply and other units within the company.

It is has been tasked to Rapalo, Cpl. Dobie August, training noncommissioned officer, and their squad leaders to prepare the Marines for some of the hardest situations any person could find themselves in.

During their training exercise, the Marines also conducted a little competition between the squads. There were three events that all ran together.

The first was an unknown distance course of fire shoot. Marines like, Pfc. Erek Sharp, originally a motor transport operator, proved every Marine is indeed a rifleman with 13 out of 20 shots right on target from more than 500 yards out.

“Each of these competitions is also an essential training evolution,” said 1st Lt. Jacob Crespin, platoon commander, Operational Platoon, H&S Company. “We have them go through every step of the mission to ensure they know exactly what they are doing.”

After working on their offensive skills, the “Darkside” rolled out to conduct a convoy exercise, including counter improvised explosive device procedures.

Rapalo and August never took it easy on the Marines, constantly hitting them with surprise attacks in an attempt to keep the training as real as possible.

“These exercises are based off of actual events that we have experienced in Iraq before,” said Rapalo. “In order to prepare the Marines, you have to present the situa-



Lance Cpl. John Ortiz fires a shot at a target more than 500 yards away during the unknown distance course of fire portion of the training exercise.



Private First Class David Gavin runs to assist wounded Marines during improvised explosive device procedures exercise and became a casualty himself as a secondary IED exploded on the side of the road. Marines from Operational Platoon, Headquarters and Service Company, 3rd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, prepare for their upcoming deployment with a two-day training exercise March 27 through 28.

tions to them realistically.”

The Marines travelled down a dirt road with plenty of foliage on either side. In the middle of the road, more than halfway down, was an object that was quite possibly an IED. The Marines conducted their five and 25 searches. In a five-and-25 search, the Marines scan five meters in every direction out to 25 meters. Rapalo was able to catch some Marines napping and detonated the other training IED’s close by.

“They were so focused on the decoy they didn’t even bother to look at the real thing right next to them,” said Lance Cpl. Keith Echelbarger, 1st squad leader. “It’s alright though, they will train until they get it right.”

Once the Marines cleared the road and ran the obstacle course, the Marines moved on to their next task, a building cordon search.

The Marines patrolled to an abandoned barracks where an insurgent was reported to be.

August, who played the role of the insurgent, set booby traps throughout the house.

The Marines followed their procedures and attempted to clear the building. However, August had other plans. The Marines were able to get a few feet into the house before they tripped one of the booby traps.

“This is not a game gents!” yelled Staff Sgt. Ronnie Torres, platoon sergeant, Operational Platoon, during a house-clearing exercise. “I need people on my team who are going to do this right and come back alive.”

The training was intense and the Marines’ performance was not evaluated lightly.

“You need to pay attention to every little detail,” said August. “You mess this up and someone will die.”

Torres, Rapalo and August continued to run the Marines through the house. Every time the Marines thought they had it under control the evaluators would change up the scenario and attempt to catch the Marines off guard.

“It’s a no brainer, we need this training for Iraq,” said Echelbarger. “Things are always training and you are never fully prepared so, you train for the worst.”

Tired, worn down and a little frustrated the Marines from “Darkside” continued to run through the gauntlet of training trials set up by their leaders. Each success and mistake was a lesson learned that might one day save their lives.

“The Marines that have formed this platoon are all stellar,” said Rapalo. “This is the best platoon I have ever had the pleasure of serving with.”



Sergeant Julio Rapalo, guide for Operational Platoon, poses as an insurgent and pops the corner to attack the unsuspecting Pfc. Jon Neal during a building clearing exercise at Marine Corps Base Hawaii, March 28.





Bieanqa Escamilla, a junior at Radford High School and Navy JROTC cadet, prepares to kick the pitch during a kickball game at the JROTC Spring Camp held at Marine Corps Base Hawaii, March 27.

# Leadership taught at the youngest level

Marines take students under wing

**Story and Photos by  
Lance Cpl. R. Drew  
Hendricks**

*Combat Correspondent*

Some might say leadership and mentorship are two very important aspects of the Marine Corps. It is believed these fundamentals of the Corps help ensure the history of excellence and success continues throughout the ages.

These fundamentals are also extended to future Marine and Sailors who are working their way to excellence in the Navy JROTC.

Marines from several commands here volunteered during the annual spring camp March 26 through 28.

More than 100 students, ranging from ninth to 12th grade, from the Navy JROTC of three different schools participated in the events.

“When I was a kid we never had a JROTC program like this one,” said Sgt. Timothy Parrish, troop handler, Kalaheo High School. “I mean they even got to go



Cadet Royce Mailolo, a freshman from Campbell High School, directs a wooden plank forming a bridge he and his team must use to cross an obstacle at the Leadership React Course.

through the gas chamber and get some actual hands on experience of how the military really works.”

The first event of the day

included Lance Cpl. Stephen Rogoski, nuclear biological and chemical defense specialist, 3rd Marine Regiment, giving a



Cadets from Radford High School work to get a heavy steel barrel up and over a simulated mine field at the leadership react course during the Navy JROTC Spring Camp.

class over the gas mask the cadets will use in the chamber.

After the class the cadets watched cautiously as 10 of them suited up and headed for the chamber.

“It’s a little scary,” said Brendan Tourek, a 10th grader from Kalaheo High School. “I know the masks will work, but I can already smell the stuff and it kind of burns.”

The cadets also ran the obstacles of the react course.

These challenging exercises require the participants to think outside the box and use teamwork to accomplish the goal.

Each event involves some sort of obstacle, like a simulated minefield or ravine that the participants have to cross and complete the mission.

“Some of those things were pretty tough,” said ninth grader David Serai, from Campbell High School. “I think I died twice on one of them.”

The students, called cadets, are treated almost

like recruits during basic training.

“We are not as extreme as boot camp of course, but they do get a taste of what the military is really like,” said Parrish.

Cadets would stand at attention as a Marine barked out orders.

“Aye, aye lance corporal!” yelled ninth grader Royce Mailolo, as a Marine instructed him on how to complete a task during a portion of the Leadership React Course. The cadets are expected to respond to orders the same way Marines in recruit training do.

“They know all about discipline,” said Master Sgt. James T. Whitley, operations chief, G-3, Marine Corps Base Hawaii. “The program really instills that into them.”

After the training session, the cadets had a chance to have a little fun and participate in some friendly competition.

The Marines helped coordinate and judge several different sporting events

including volleyball, football and kickball.

“The kids have a great time,” said Whitley. “It’s a great way to support the youth in the community and give them a taste of the Marine Corps esprit de corps at the same time.”

Parrish said the program doesn’t just help the students; it also has the potential to help the Marines who volunteer.

“Just being able to mentor these kids and impart some sort of knowledge may inspire a Marine to turn his life around, or may influence to make a change in his career,” he said. “I still have former cadets who write to me and tell me what a difference I made in their lives. It’s a great feeling.”

This is just one of the many JROTC events the Marine Corps community here participates in.

“It’s important for me to volunteer for things like this,” said Parrish. “Its great for these kids and it may change their lives dramatically for the better.”



# April 15 deadline approaching

## Staff

Hawaii Marine

With tax season almost complete, Marines and Sailors working at the Tax Center aboard MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, are ensuring service members are getting their tax refunds on time, providing tax filers remember to bring the correct information with them.

As of March 15, the tax center has filed 2,862 federal and 2,320 state tax returns. With their busiest day bringing in 113 customers.

By utilizing the tax center, patrons received \$152,285 for federal and \$9,440 for state fees that would have been paid if they went to an outside tax preparation agency.

According to Gunnery Sgt. Patricia V. White, staff non-commissioned officer-in-charge, Tax Center, the center has collected more than 4.5 million dollars for federal tax returns and \$584,787 for state refunds.

Most civilian tax preparation agencies will only file Hawaii state taxes, however the base tax center will file state taxes for any state, even if the

federal taxes were filed somewhere else said White.

Service members are stressed to bring all their 2006 W-2's to include their spouses'. They must bring their W-2's from other states if they have recently moved to the island.

According to White, all documents must be brought to include the service member's banking number, the checking account number and routing number. If the filer has a spouse and children, the spelling on the original social security number card must be the same on the return.

"We are getting returns back because the spouse gave us her married name and did not report the name change to the Social Security office," said White, a Syracuse, N.Y. native. "The SSN office still has her maiden name listed. The IRS gets their information from the SSN office. The return and the SSN office have to have the same name or it gets rejected."

White said service members should also have the year-end information for stocks, bonds, mutual funds, IRA's, if

they sold property, have a rental property, and mortgage interest paid information as well.

According to White, some service members may experience a delay in their tax returns due to the 'Extenders,' which refers to tax law provisions included in the Tax Relief and Health Care Act of 2006. Several of these provisions were tax law which expired at the end of 2005 or were scheduled to expire at the end of 2006. This recent legislation simply extended these provisions.

Due to this, educators with out-of-pocket classroom expenses, taxpayers planning to claim the tuition and fees deduction, and taxpayers choosing to deduct local and state sales tax, should wait to prepare and file their return on or after Feb. 3. If the taxpayer doesn't want to wait, the return should be prepared and filed as a paper return.

The tax center aboard base accepts walk-ins from 8 a.m-4 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on Wednesday, when the center is opened for walk-ins from 9 a.m. until 6 p.m. Appointments can be made ahead of



Sgt. Sara A. Carter

**Corporal Tyler Gilbert, rescue man, Aircraft Rescue and Fire, has his taxes prepared by Cpl. Joe Rodriguez at the Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, Tax Center Monday. The center will be open until April 17 to prepare taxes.**

time if one wishes to do so.

If disabled or elderly personnel cannot make it up to the second floor of Building 279, a simple phone call will allow them to get their taxes done at the base legal services building.

"If they call ahead, we can have someone meet them at base legal, making their experience easier. "We try to fit into people's schedules no matter what. Especially for service

members who are deploying," said White.

The tax center will be open until April 17, but White said the services will still be provided at the legal assistance office during the off season, especially for units who may have been deployed.

For more information, or to make an appointment at the tax center, call 257-4829.

## ANBAR, from A-1

Steuter has also been nominated for an award, for helping to save the life of a Navy Corpsman while under fire.

After a patrol through the streets of Haditha, we sat down to discuss the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq, politics, combat and the people it affects.

### What are some differences between the wars Iraq and Afghanistan?

Tarr — In Afghanistan we would go on patrol through the mountains and basically wait for someone to attack us. Out here, we're actually going out to get the bad guys.

Steuter — There's a huge tactical difference between here and Afghanistan. Here we're in the middle of a city whereas in Afghanistan we were in the middle of the mountains out in the open. When we got hit in Afghanistan it was usually from 500 to 600 yards away, but here you're getting hit from about 50 yards. It's also a lot harder to tell who the enemy is here because they're so integrated into the population.

### As a grunt you're in contact with local Iraqis on a daily basis. How would you describe them?

Tarr — Most of them are really good people. For the most part, they want us here and they want us to repair their government. They want to make sure that their Army and Police force is stood up before we leave. That's why we integrate the Iraqi Security Force into our missions so much, to get them ready to take over eventually.

Steuter — Most of these people are just regular people who want to live regular

lives without having to worry about getting killed everyday. I talk to people everyday out here and they always tell me that they just want a normal life; they want to be able to go to sleep at night and not get woken up by a bomb or gunfire. I ask them what they think about us being here and they tell me, 'we didn't really want you here in the first place, but now that you're here you need to stay here.' If we left now the insurgents would run this place. I'm not talking about Iraq as a whole, but in the Haditha area, the insurgents would have total control if we left right now.

### Do you think you're making a positive difference in their lives?

Tarr — Absolutely. When we first got here we would get attacked every time we left the wire. Not only does that suck for us, but it had a huge effect on the population. People were afraid to leave their houses for fear of getting shot. The last couple of months have been very different. The violence is down dramatically, more people are walking around the markets than I've ever seen. In general, people are starting to get a small sense of security.

Steuter — From when we got here in September until now the city has done a complete 180. I don't know about the country as a whole, but we've made a huge difference in Haditha. When we first got here we got shot at three or four times on each patrol, locals were being threatened by the insurgency and the insurgents pretty much controlled the Suk (market) area. Now things are starting to get under control.

*Editor's Note: See next week's issue for a continuation of Tarr and Steuter's commentary.*

## SAFETY, from A-1

base regulation states "Operators shell not use cellular phones while the vehicle is in operation unless they are using a hands-free device."(Chapter 7004 paragraph k.) This regulation has proven to be a valuable asset to the base since we have seen an almost fifty percent decrease in the last three months it has been implemented. There have been 39 citations given since the new year. Each citation comes with a mandatory court date and seven day suspension.

Seat belt offenders face a much harsher punishment. Almost 115 people die every day in vehicle accidents in the United States; that is one death every 13 minutes. Out of that number, sixty three percent of people not wearing seat belts are killed. This is the single deadliest killer out of any

safety-related behavior. Accidents.com hits home by saying that the hardest group to reach is males ages 16 to 25. This group is the least likely to buckle up and are also the highest-risk drivers, with more drunk driving, speeding and crashes out of any other group. Neither education nor fear of injury or death is strong enough to motivate the group.

Both the State of Hawaii and the military bases in Hawaii have strict policies on seat belt use.

Hickam, on your first offense, you will receive a seven day suspension. If you receive a second citation within 12 months of the last infraction you will be suspended 30 days. After the third offense withing 12 months of the last citation, don't expect to not drive on base for 18 months.

They write around three 1408 tickets a month for seatbelt viola-

tors. MCBH base regulations states "Every occupant on any vehicle operated aboard MCBH will wear a safety belt at all times while the vehicle is in motion."(Chapter 7004 paragraph f.)

If every occupant of the vehicle is not wearing a seat belt then the driver on the first offense has a mandatory court appearance and seven-day suspension. On the second offense you get mandatory court appearance and 30-day suspension. On the third offense mandatory court appearance and you are looking forward to 180-day suspension. The State of Hawaii upon catching you will not suspended you but they will fine you. A mandatory ticket of 170 dollars is issued for being caught without a seat belt out side the base. Either on base or off it's a hefty penny to pay when your life is on the line.

# AROUND THE CORPS

## Actor, director helps save Marine lives

**Lance Cpl. Travis J. Crewdson**

*MCB Quantico*

**MARINE CORPS BASE QUANTICO, Va.** — Carl Weathers has done many great things in his accomplished career. He was a linebacker for the Oakland Raiders in 1970 and 1971, he played a supporting role as Apollo Creed in the “Rocky” movie series from 1976 to 1985, and he later starred in action films like “Predator” (1987) and “Action Jackson” (1988) and then in a comedic role as Chubbs in “Happy Gilmore” (1996). His most recent work has been done as a director and narrator, but instead of working alongside big-name celebrities like Sylvester Stallone, Adam Sandler or Allen Covert, he worked with the Marines.

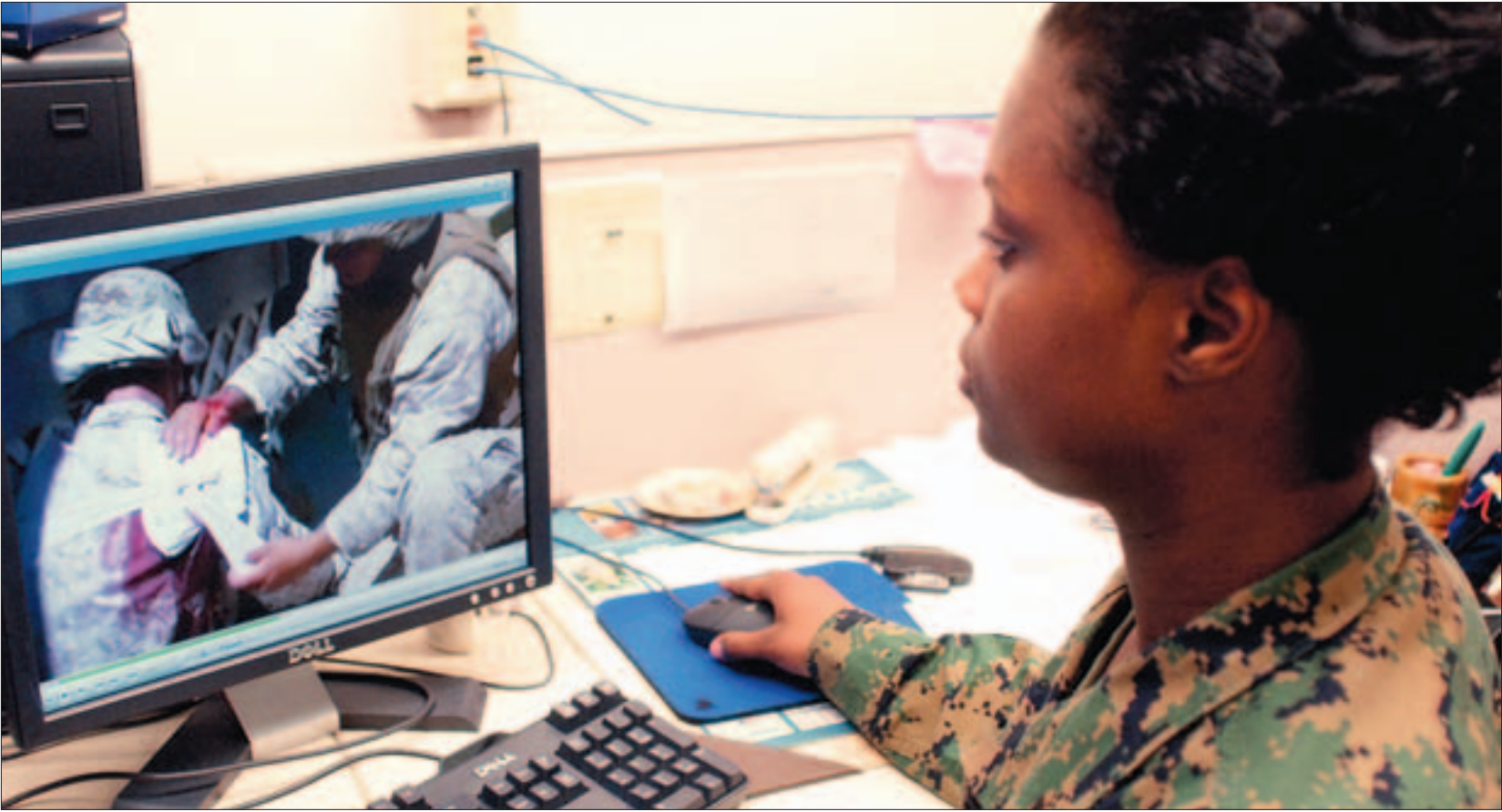
The Marine Corps Training and Education Command worked in conjunction with Stu Segall Productions and Strategic Operations to develop a Marine combat casualty care video directed and narrated by Weathers.

The video was born from TECOM’s search for a more systematic way to give Marines training in the Predeployment Training Program. This specific example focused on the proper use of the Individual First-Aid Kit.

“This is training that every Marine needs,” a TECOM official said. “Based on wounds we’ve seen during current operations, we put emphasis on amputation, burns and gunshot wounds. The IFAK has saved countless lives overseas, but some Marines don’t have the opportunity to tear it open and practice with all of the components prior to deployment.”

The Marines in the video demonstrate the correct use of the quick-clot powder and pouches, tourniquets and pressure and burn dressings as advised by the Field Medical Service School in Camp Pendleton, Calif.

“(The IFAK) is an empowering device,”



Weike Zhao

Marine Corps Training and Education Command recently developed a combat casualty care video directed and narrated by Carl Weathers, which is readily available for use.

Weathers said. “It doesn’t require (special) training, just the ability to use it properly. It speaks for itself. It saves lives.”

He added that he was intrigued by the application of the quick-clot.

“To watch the pack utilized and feel the granules in my hand, I really had a chance to see science and technology at work,” Weather boasted. “The practicality of the medical pack was beautiful to watch.”

Weathers gives further guidance in his narration by advising Marines to always check for additional wounds, reassure the casualty and – most importantly – to press the fight.

The video was filmed on Segall’s 20-acre site in San Diego in November. His site is often used by Strategic Operations to train military and civilian units in a hyper-realistic environment. Segall said the realism of site both helped those who participated and should be of great benefit to anyone who watched the footage.

“I’m hoping the audience will pay attention and get a sense of realism,” Segall said. “This way, Marines can have a conscious or subconscious heads up and know what to do with (the individual first-aid kit). It’s just one element, but it’s a start to saving lives and training that everyone needs to do.”

“It gives a sense of reality,” Weathers said. “I try to deliver a message in an entertaining way, not just presenting the message, but putting you in the situation to find (the message) yourself. (This film) hit the nail on the head.”

Weathers and Segall said they have worked together on many projects in the past and as such, Weathers was offered the job.

“Stu gave me my start so I jump at his opportunities,” Weathers said. “And Marines have such a fighting men and women persona that working with them was worth the prize. They are the forward end of the spear in the war. Not only was I privileged, but anytime I’m in the company of people that do what Marines do ... it’s just something to behold. I was inspired by the teamwork I saw in getting Marines into the fray and back again.”

The Marines Weathers worked with were instructors from the School of Infantry at Camp Pendleton.

The video is available on MarineNet as part of

the PTP course and may soon appear on other Marine Corps Web sites, a TECOM official said.

“Some people are concerned that it provides information that the enemy can use against us, but if you want it to be a secret, then not even our Marines will get to see it,” said a TECOM official.”

**To access the video:**

- Visit [www.marinenet.usmc.mil](http://www.marinenet.usmc.mil)
- Log on or create a new free account
- Click on “Course Catalogue”
- Select “Predeployment Training Program”
- Choose “Block 2”
- Click on “First Aid-PTPB2”
- Launch course once enrolled

**To link directly to the video:**

- Visit <http://www.tecom.usmc.mil/gtb/vid eos/IFAK%20First%20Aid.wmv>.